



## Obama Sees Message of Resilience in New Orleans

President Barack Obama delivers remarks at the Andrew P. Sanchez Community Center in New Orleans, Thursday, Aug. 27, 2015, for the 10th anniversary since the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. (AP Photo/Andrew Harnik) Page 5

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## At least 4 killed in Dominica as Tropical Storm Erika hits island

CARLISLE BAPTISTE  
DANICA COTO  
Associated Press

**ROSEAU, Dominica (AP)** — Streets across Dominica turned into fast-flowing rivers that swept up cars as Tropical Storm Erika pummeled the eastern Caribbean island, unleashing landslides and killing at least four people.

The storm, which forecasters said could reach Florida as a hurricane on Monday, knocked out power and water supplies on Dominica as it dumped 15 inches (38 centimeters) of rain on the small island and headed west into the Caribbean Sea. An elderly blind man and two children were killed when a mudslide crashed into their home in the southeast of the island, said Police Superintendent Daniel Carbon. Another man was found dead near his home in the capital of Roseau after a mudslide, but the cause of death was could not be immediately determined, Carbon told The Associated Press. Police said another 20 people have been reported missing.

Erika was centered about 175 miles (280 kilometers) west of Guadeloupe, and was moving west at 15 mph (24 kph) with maximum sustained winds that had slipped slightly to 45 mph (75 kph), according to the U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami.

Erika was expected to move near Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands on Thursday and be near or just north of the Dominican Republic on Friday as it heads toward Florida early next week, possibly as a hurricane.

Chris Landsea, a meteorologist at the hurricane center, said the storm could dissipate if it passed over Hispaniola or Puerto Rico or it could gather and pose a potential threat to Florida next week. "The uncertainties are very high," he said. As the storm entered the Caribbean, it did the heaviest damage to Dominica, an island of about 72,000 people of lush forests and

steep terrain. Authorities were still conducting a full damage assessment after rivers surged over their banks and walls of mud surged into homes.

About 80 percent of the island was without electricity, and water supply was cut off, authorities said. Trees and light poles were strewn across streets as water rushed over parked cars and ripped the scaffolding off some buildings. The main airport was closed due to flooding, with water rushing over at least one small plane.

The main river that cuts through the capital overflowed its banks and surging water crashed into the principal bridge that leads into Roseau.

"The capital city is a wreck," policewoman Tee-sha Alfred said. "It is a sight to behold. It's a disaster." Erika was likely to hit the island of Hispaniola, which is shared by Haiti and the Dominican Republic, said chief forecaster James Franklin at the National Hurricane Center.

"That would certainly not be good news for Hispaniola," he said. "They're very vulnerable to flooding. And even if Erika is a weak system that could be very bad there."

Officials shuttered schools, government offices and businesses across the region and warned of flash flooding because of dry conditions caused by the worst drought to hit the Caribbean in recent years. Authorities warned power and water service might be temporarily cut off.

Puerto Rico Gov. Alejandro Garcia Padilla said the storm could bring badly needed rains to the parched U.S. territory.

"We're happy given the dry conditions, but it does highlight the need to be on alert," he said, adding that heavy downpours could lead to flash floods. He activated the National Guard as a precaution.

The heaviest rains were expected to hit Puerto Rico's eastern region, with the storm expected to pass

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A river overflows, affecting some homes along its banks, due to Tropical Storm Erika in Roseau, Dominica, Thursday, Aug. 27, 2015. Streets across Dominica turned into fast-flowing rivers that swept up cars as the storm pummeled the eastern Caribbean island.

(AP Photo/Carlisle Jno Baptiste)

about 30 miles (50 kilometers) north of the island overnight Thursday, said Odalys Martinez, with the National Weather Service in San Juan.

Erika is expected to dump between 4 to 8 inches (10 to 20 centimeters) of rain across the region, with up to 12 inches (31 centimeters) in some areas.

Dozens of flights were canceled in the region, and the U.S. Coast Guard closed all ports in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. □



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## On-air shooter threatened to make 'headlines,' showed anger

**ROANOKE, Virginia (AP)** — Vester Flanagan fulfilled a threat to put his conflict with co-workers into "the headlines" when he gunned down two employees of a Virginia TV station during a live morning broadcast — one of them a cameraman who had filmed his firing two years

called how her off-hand comment that the often boisterous Flanagan was acting quiet led him to try to grab her by the shoulder, and tell her never to talk to him again. At a bar in Roanoke, the manager recalled Flanagan was so incensed when no one thanked him as he

a judge filed as part of his 2013 lawsuit against the television station. "Your Honor, I am not the monster here." The lawsuit was dismissed in July 2014. But in recent weeks, Flanagan laid careful plans for retribution. He contacted ABC News about what he claimed

After the killing, Flanagan texted a friend suggesting he had "done something stupid," investigators wrote in a search warrant. He turned the gun on himself when police caught up to him a few hours later. Inside his rental car, investigators found extra license plates, a wig, shawl, sunglasses

around the world Wednesday after Ward's camera recorded the attack. Later, during an afternoon news conference, the station's general manager, Jeffrey Marks, recalled a series of problems with Flanagan while he worked at WDBJ from March 2012 to February 2013. Flanagan accused a news photographer of trespassing on private property. He confronted an anchor over a story and attempted to reach the company's CEO to complain. He filed a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, as well as the lawsuit.

Flanagan's joking and smiling one minute could turn to anger in the next, a former colleague, Justin McLeod, said in an interview.

Once, seemingly out of nowhere, Flanagan told a photographer that he knew the man didn't like him because he was gay. The photographer responded by telling Flanagan that he had not even known, McLeod said.

But there was no inkling then or since of what was to come, Marks said. Former co-workers, surprised that he stayed in town after losing his job, passed him from time to time. They called them "Bryce sightings," referring to Flanagan's on-air name, McLeod said. But none had any conversation with him, let alone confrontations.

"We are still at a loss to figure out what happened to him in those 2 1/2 years," Marks said. □



**WDBJ-TV7 news morning anchor Kimberly McBroom, second from right, and meteorologist Leo Hirsbrunner, right, are joined by visiting anchor Steve Grant, second from left, and Dr. Thomas Milam, of the Carilion Clinic, as they observe a moment of silence during the early morning newscast at the station, in Roanoke, Va., Thursday, Aug. 27, 2015. The moment of silence was at the moment reporter Alison Parker and cameraman Adam Ward were killed during a live broadcast Wednesday, while on assignment in Moneta.**

(AP Photo/Steve Helber)

earlier. But as station employees struggled Thursday to explain the events that framed Flanagan's anger, others who had run across the gunman in the time since he lost his job at WDBJ-TV described a man whose hair-triggered temper was increasingly set off by slights that were more often imagined than real. A former co-worker at a call center where he worked until late 2014 re-

left that he sent a nearly 20-page letter, lambasting employees' behavior. As Flanagan encountered repeated tensions with others around him, he described himself as the aggrieved and unappreciated victim. "How heartless can you be? My entire life was disrupted after moving clear across the country for a job only to have my dream turn into a nightmare," Flanagan wrote in a letter to

was a story tip and filled his Facebook page with photos and video montages seemingly designed to introduce himself to a larger audience. On Wednesday, Flanagan killed 24-year-old Alison Parker, a reporter for WDBJ, and cameraman Adam Ward, 27, while the two conducted a live interview for the station's morning broadcast, then went online to claim that they had wronged him in the past.

and a hat as well as some stamped letters and a "to do" list. Colleagues of the journalists shot to death returned to their morning show Thursday, in a broadcast that opened with images of Parker and Ward. "We come to you with heavy hearts. Two of our own were shot during a live shot yesterday morning," said Kim McBroom, the anchor whose open-mouthed shock was seen



# Obama Sees Message of Resilience in New Orleans



President Barack Obama, accompanied by New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu, center left, walks in the Tremé neighborhood in New Orleans, Thursday, Aug. 27, 2015, for the 10th anniversary since the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. Tremé is one of the oldest black neighborhoods in America, which borders the French Quarter just north of Downtown.

(AP Photo/Andrew Harnik)

**D. SUPERVILLE  
N. BENAC  
Associated Press**

**NEW ORLEANS (AP)** — President Barack Obama paid tribute to New Orleans on Thursday as an extraordinary example of renewal and resilience 10 years after the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, walking through the city's streets, visiting tidy porch stoops and dining at a thriving corner eatery, "The fact that we can make this many strides 10 years after a terrible, epic disaster, I think, is an indication of the kind of spirit we have in this city," Obama declared after walking door to door in the historic Treme section of a city reborn from tragedy. He cau-

tioned, though, that "just because the housing is nice doesn't mean our job is done."

Areas of the city still suffer from high poverty, he said, and young people still take the wrong path.

There is more to be done to confront "structural inequities that existed long before the storm happened," he added.

In his remarks, Obama blended the same themes of resilience and renewal that he drew from encounters with the sturdy residents he met along Magic Street and at other locations.

Leah Chase, 92, was one of those to chat with Obama, and pronounced herself a fan of the man, saying he'd handled "a rough road."

"That's all you have to do: handle what's handed to you," Chase said, voicing what could be a credo for the city.

Obama was clearly energized by his visits, at one point breaking into a song from "The Jeffersons" sitcom after meeting a young woman who calls herself "Wheezy." He stopped off for lunch with some local young men at Willie Mae Scotch House before heading to a new community center in the hard-hit Lower 9th Ward.

"Not long ago, our gathering here in the Lower 9th might have seemed unlikely," Obama said in speech excerpts released in advance. "But today, this new community center

stands as a symbol of the extraordinary resilience of this city and its people, of the entire Gulf Coast, indeed, of the United States of America. You are an example of what's possible when, in the face of tragedy and hardship, good people come together to lend a hand, and to build a better future."

Obama was a new U.S. senator when Katrina's powerful winds and driving rain bore down on Louisiana on Aug. 29, 2005. The storm caused major damage to the Gulf Coast from Texas to central Florida while powering a storm surge that breached the system of levees meant to protect New Orleans from flooding.

Nearly 2,000 people died,

most in New Orleans. Video of residents seeking refuge on rooftops, inside the Superdome and at the convention center dominated news coverage as Katrina came to symbolize government failure at every level. In his speech, Obama said Katrina helped expose inequalities that long plagued New Orleans and left too many people, especially minorities, without good jobs, affordable health care or decent housing and too many kids growing up in the midst of violent crime and attending inefficient schools.

The setting of his address at the community center, where the water once stood 17 feet (5.2 meters) deep — spoke to the stark contrasts that remain. □

## Company:

## Settlement reached in Gulf oil leak lawsuit

**KEVIN MCGILL  
Associated Press**

**NEW ORLEANS (AP)** — A New Orleans energy company said Thursday it has reached a settlement agreement with environmental groups in a lawsuit stemming from the company's failed efforts to stop a decade-old, slow-motion oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. A federal court filing Thursday stated that an agreement had been reached

between Taylor Energy Company and the environmental groups. Taylor said in a news release it has agreed under the settlement to make a \$300,000 donation to a Louisiana marine research consortium and to fund \$100,000 in research on the ecological effects of small, long term leaks in the Gulf.

Taylor also said it will host a public forum and publish a website with information

on the company's spill response.

Environmental groups led by the New York City-based Waterkeeper Alliance said in a joint statement that they won't comment until a final agreement is signed. "We are very pleased about the progress of negotiations with Taylor, and have come to a conceptual agreement that has not yet been finalized. □

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## US Financial Front:

## The US economy's second quarter went from solid to stellar

**M. CRUTSINGER**  
**AP Economics Writer**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The U.S. economy staged a far bigger rebound last quarter than first thought, outpacing the rest of the developed world and bolstering confidence that it will remain sturdy in coming months despite global headwinds. The economy as measured by gross domestic product expanded at an annual rate of 3.7 percent in the April-June quarter, the Commerce Department reported Thursday. That's more than a percentage point greater than the initial 2.3 percent estimate and a sharp upgrade from the anemic 0.6 percent advance during the January-March quarter.

To be sure, the GDP report provides a backward look at the U.S. economy. Since the spring, it has been hit with deepening concerns about a slowdown in China and recent turbulence in global financial markets. It remains unclear how the U.S. will fare in the months ahead if developments abroad deteriorate. The robust second-quarter numbers, however, indicate a level of growth unmatched by the rest of the developed world and a solid footing heading into the second half of the year.

"The U.S. economy entered the current market turbulence with momentum, which will help it to shrug off the drag from China and other developing economies," said Diane Swonk, chief economist at Mesirow Financial. In contrast, Japan — the world's No. 3 economy — shrank at an annual pace of 1.6 percent in the second quarter. Germany eked out 0.4 percent growth, while the United Kingdom expanded at a modest 0.7 percent rate. France didn't grow at all. The U.S. economy will probably cool slightly in the third quarter, but economists still expect solid growth that should keep fueling jobs and spending.

Paul Ashworth, chief U.S. economist at Capital Economics, projects GDP growth of 2.5 percent in the current July-September quarter. "The economy regained a massive amount of momentum in the second quarter and all the evidence from July's activity and employment data suggests that momentum continued into the third quarter," Ashworth said in a note to clients.

Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Analytics, is forecasting the economy to grow around 2.8 percent in third quarter and accelerate to a 3.5 percent annual rate in the October-December period. But he said that is based on an expectation that the recent market turbulence will not inflict long-lasting damage on the economy.

"My forecast rests on the assumption that this is a garden variety market correction, with stock prices dropping by 10 percent from their recent high," Zandi said. "If we get a bigger decline of 20 percent, then that will hurt consumption and housing, and we will not get the job growth we are expecting."



Workers harvest early apples at Samascott Orchards in Kinderhook, N.Y. The Commerce Department released second-quarter gross domestic product on Thursday, Aug. 27, 2015.

(AP Photo/Mike Groll)

The revision for second-quarter growth was broad-based, reflecting more robust spending by consumers, businesses and government.

Consumer spending grew at annual rate of 3.1 percent, up from a 1.8 percent growth rate in the first quarter. Business investment in structures and equipment was revised higher to show growth of 3.2 percent instead of a decline. Hous-

ing construction jumped 7.8 percent, up from an initial estimate of 6.6 percent growth. Businesses spent more to restock their store shelves as well.

Also fueling growth were strong gains in state and local government spending, largely due to greater public construction outlays.

U.S. stock markets shot up Thursday after the GDP report and a strong day across global financial mar-

kets. The Dow Jones industrial average closed up 369 points, following a surge Wednesday when stocks rallied to snap a six-day losing streak that saw the Dow tumble about 1,900 points. Before the recent financial market turmoil, many economists had assumed that signs of an improving U.S. economy would lead the Fed to begin raising its key short-term rate at its Sept. 16-17 meeting. □

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## Dead migrants found in abandoned truck near Austrian capital

**GEORGE JAHN**  
**Associated Press**

**VIENNA (AP)** — As regional leaders met Thursday to tackle Europe's refugee crisis, a gruesome discovery unfolded a short drive from the Austrian capital: An abandoned truck was found with at least 20 — and possibly up to 50 — decomposing bodies of migrants piled inside.

It was the latest tragedy in a year that has seen tens of thousands of people risking all to seek a better life or refuge in wealthy European countries. German Chancellor Angela Merkel said at the Vienna conference she was "shaken by the awful news," and summit participants held a minute of silence.

"This reminds us that we in

Europe need to tackle the problem quickly and find solutions in the spirit of solidarity," Merkel said.

Migrants fearful of death at sea in overcrowded and flimsy boats as they flee turmoil and war in the Middle East have increasingly turned to using a land route to Europe through the Western Balkans. But the discovery of the bodies in the truck on the main highway connecting Vienna to the Hungarian capital of Budapest showed there is no truly safe path.

Thousands cross from Greece daily with the help of smugglers, aiming to reach European Union countries like Germany, Austria or Sweden and apply for asylum. The human traffickers may charge thou-



**Police stand in front of a truck parked on the shoulder of the highway A4 near Parndorf south of Vienna, Austria, Thursday, Aug 27, 2015. At least 20 — and possibly up to 50 — migrants were found dead in the truck parked on the Austrian highway leading from the Hungarian border, police said.**  
(AP Photo/Ronald Zak)

sands of dollars per person, only to stuff them into trucks and vans so tightly that they often cannot move — or breathe.

Austrian police declined to say what killed those found in the truck, pending an investigation.

The state of decomposition made establishing identities and even the exact number of dead difficult. Senior

police official Hans Peter Dorkozil said that "20, 30, 40 — maybe 50" corpses were inside.

The truck was towed to an air-conditioned location near the border with Hungary where authorities would open it once temperatures had cooled enough to begin removing the bodies, said Dorkozil, the chief of police in Burgenland prov-

ince east of Vienna.

Autopsies would be conducted in the capital later, he said.

Officials found the driverless truck shortly before noon on the highway shoulder about 25 miles (40 kilometers) east of Vienna, near the town of Parndorf, and they originally believed it had mechanical trouble, said police spokesman Helmut Marban. □

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## Police dismantle Roma camp outside Paris

**ELAINE GANLEY**  
**Associated Press**

**LA COURNEUVE, France (AP)** — Police, working swiftly in the pouring rain, cleared out one of France's biggest and oldest Roma camps on Thursday, dismantling a sprawling network of makeshift shelters that housed hundreds of people. After the 2½-hour-long evacuation, some 50 people milled about on the streets of La Courneuve, despite official promises that no one would be left in the streets.

Hugues Besancenot, sec-

retary general of the prefecture of the Seine-Saint-Denis region northeast of Paris, said around 60 pregnant women, young children and disabled camp residents received vouchers for urgent housing. The others were given a homeless shelter hotline.

About 200 people had been living in the camp, which sprang up in 2009, he said. However, associations put the number at about 300, noting that not all are present year-round. "They did nothing for us. They said there's no place for me," said Brindus Dan,

who lived in the camp with his wife and three children, including a 6-month-old baby, for four years.

Residents had six months to prepare for the evacuation since a court ordered the camp shut last February. Police gave a final warning Tuesday, Besancenot said. Riot police lined the street leading to the camp, blocking the demolition of the shantytown from the public. About 50 people, including mothers with infants, stood dazed and drenched on a nearby sidewalk, or under the awning of a closed cafe. □





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### Yemen says no talks with rebels until Houthis lay down arms: AP

**CAIRO (AP)** — The Yemeni government is not negotiating with Shiite Houthi rebels who control the capital and much of the north, and demands that they lay down their arms, Foreign Minister Riad Yassin said Thursday.

"The Houthis and (former President Ali Abdullah) Saleh's militias must implement the U.N. resolution and surrender their weapons, and only then the dialogue and political process can begin, with the participation of all Yemeni parties," Yassin told reporters in Cairo after meeting with Arab League Secretary General Nabil Elaraby.

Referring to reports of meetings in the Gulf nation of Oman, Yassin described them as mere "consultations" between U.N. envoy Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed and the Houthis, aimed at convincing them to implement a U.N. resolution from April.

That resolution requested that the Houthis withdraw from areas they seized and surrender weapons they took from military and state institutions.

"That is the only solution that is on the table; there is nothing else," said Yassin, who along with the rest of Yemen's internationally recognized government is in exile in Saudi Arabia.

Yemen's conflict pits the Iran-supported Houthi rebels and troops loyal to Saleh against an array of forces including southern separatists, local and tribal militias, Sunni Islamic militants as well as troops loyal to President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi.

The conflict escalated in March when a Saudi-led coalition started launching airstrikes against the Houthis. □

## IS bombing kills 2 Iraqi army generals in Anbar

**QASSIM ZAHRA**  
**Associated Press**

**BAGHDAD (AP)** — An Islamic State suicide bomber killed two Iraqi army generals on Thursday as they led forces against IS positions in the turbulent Anbar province west of Baghdad,

spokesman said on state television that 10 other soldiers were wounded. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media.

The IS group captured Ramadi in May and also con-

bar, and Brig. Gen. Sefeun Abdul-Maguid, commander of the 10th Army Division. The two were later given a military funeral at the Defense Ministry in Baghdad with Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi and Defense Minister Khaled al-Obeidi lead-

and armed with two heavy machine-guns carried out the attack.

Tens of soldiers were killed, including the two generals, it said without giving precise figures. The operation was designed to avenge the killing of a local commander in Anbar it identified as Abu Radi al-Ansari. The Associated Press could not immediately verify the authenticity of the statement, but its language and phrasing is consistent with past IS claims of responsibility.

In neighboring Syria, meanwhile, IS militants seized five villages from rebel groups in the north as part of an advance toward the strategic town of Marea near the Turkish border. The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights and other activist groups said the IS carried out a suicide bombing on the outskirts of Marea amid fierce fighting in the area.

The Turkish Dogan news agency also reported renewed fighting between IS and rebels across the border from Kilis and said the U.S.-led coalition bombed IS targets in the region. Dogan video footage showed a large plume of smoke rising from across the border. □



**Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi, center, Defense Minister Khaled al-Obeidi, center right, and government officials and parliament members attend the funeral procession of Maj. Gen. Abdul-Rahman Abu-Regheef, deputy chief of operations in Anbar and Brig. Gen. Sefeun Abdul-Maguid, commander of the 10th Army Division who was killed in Ramadi during fighting with Islamic State militants, at the headquarters of the Iraqi Ministry of Defense in Baghdad, Iraq, Thursday, Aug. 27, 2015.**

(AP Photo)

military officials said.

They said the bomber drove his explosives-laden vehicle into the advancing troops north of Anbar's provincial capital, Ramadi, killing the two generals and three soldiers. A military

controls the nearby city of Fal-lujah.

A military statement read on Iraqi state television identified the two generals as Maj. Gen. Abdul-Rahman Abu-Regheef, deputy chief of operations in An-

ing mourners.

An IS statement posted on Twitter accounts run by supporters claimed responsibility for the attack, but gave a different account, saying six fighters in four explosives-laden vehicles

## US strikes southern Afghan district seized by Taliban

**KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)** — U.S. forces have launched multiple airstrikes on a district in southern Afghanistan seized by the Taliban the day before, U.S. officials said Thursday.

"U.S. forces conducted airstrikes in Musa Qala today against individuals threatening coalition and Afghan forces," Col. Brian Tribus, a spokesman for U.S. and allied forces in Afghanistan, said without

providing further details. Afghan Army Brig. Gen. Mohammad Rasool Zaizai said Afghan and allied warplanes struck army and police headquarters in the Musa Qala district in northern Helmand province Thursday, likely killing fighters and civilians.

He said it was not possible to confirm casualty figures because insurgents control the area.

A U.S. defense official said

more than a dozen U.S. airstrikes hit targets in Musa Qala over the past three days. The official was not authorized to publicly discuss details and so spoke on condition of anonymity. Taliban spokesman Qari Yousef says 30 civilians and 10 fighters were killed, but the Taliban often provide unreliable figures. Taliban insurgents overran Musa Qala on Wednesday after a weeklong assault on Af-

ghan security forces.

The United States ended offensive combat operations in Afghanistan at the end of 2014 but retains the option to strike against terrorist targets and in situations where the Taliban are deemed to pose a threat to Afghan or allied forces. The U.S. recently launched airstrikes at leaders of the Islamic State's Afghan affiliate in northeastern Afghanistan. □





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## Greece appoints 1st female prime minister ahead of snap poll

**ELENA BECATOROS**  
**NICHOLAS PAPHITIS**  
**Associated Press**

**ATHENS, Greece (AP)**

— Greece's first female prime minister, a top judge, was sworn in Thursday to head a caretaker government ahead of early elections next month in the bailout-dependent country.

Supreme Court head Vassiliki Thanou, 65, was appointed after radical left Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras resigned, seeking a stronger mandate to implement tough austerity measures demanded by Greece's creditors in return for a third bailout worth 86 billion euro (\$97 billion).

Her main task will be to hold the reins until a new government emerges



**Vassiliki Thanou, signs a document during a swearing in ceremony at the Presidential Palace in Athens, Thursday, Aug. 27, 2015, to become Greece's first female prime minister. Greece came one step closer on Thursday to early elections with President Prokopis Pavlopoulos appointing the head of the country's Supreme Court as caretaker prime minister to lead the country to next month's polls.**

(AP Photo/Petros Giannakouris)

from the vote expected on Sept. 20.

"But, given the circumstances ... I believe that this government will also

have to handle crucial matters," Thanou said in her first public comments in office, singling out for mention Greece's immigration crisis.

Since January, the financially struggling country has received more than 160,000 mainly Syrian refugees and economic migrants — a record number — who arrive in boats

from Turkey before heading to wealthier European countries.

Tsipras was forced to step down last week, barely seven months into his four-year term, following a rebellion in his radical left Syriza party over his agreement to the new income cuts and tax hikes. Syriza hardliners were furious that Tsipras signed the deal with even harsher terms than those he had vowed to abolish when he was elected in January. The deal was approved with support from pro-European opposition parties, who now accuse him of rushing to call elections before voters are hit by the full force of the new tax measures.

The 41-year-old outgoing prime minister has argued he was left with no choice but to accept European creditors' demands, to save Greece from defaulting on its debts and being forced out of the euro currency it shares with another 18 European

nations.

Thanou will appoint a Cabinet that will be sworn in on Friday, when the election date will be formally confirmed.

Greek President Prokopis Pavlopoulos announced her appointment after parliament's three largest parties failed to find willing coalition partners. The last to hold the mandate to form a government was former energy minister Panagiotis Lafazanis, who created the new Popular Unity party last week after splitting from Syriza.

Greece has relied on funds from two bailouts by other European countries and the International Monetary Fund totaling nearly 240 billion euros (\$270 billion) since 2010. In return for the loans, successive governments imposed deeply resented spending cuts that slashed incomes by more than a third, deepened a dire recession and pushed unemployment well over 25 percent. □



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## Ukraine reaches debt deal with creditors

**MOSCOW (AP)** — The Ukrainian government said Thursday it has reached a deal with its international bondholders to lighten its public debt burden, a crucial move that will help the country avoid default as it tries to cope with the devastating costs of war.

As part of the deal, investors who own Ukraine's bonds will write off 20 percent of their holdings, shrinking \$19 billion in sovereign debt to \$15.5 billion, Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk told the government. The deal will also extend the payment period on the government bonds by four years through 2027. Payments on the bonds will depend on the growth rate of the

economy, which has been battered by a separatist war in the east. Ukraine will pay nothing on its bonds if its economy grows less than 3 percent annually. The debt relief is part of a broader financial support program agreed on with the International Monetary Fund. The IMF announced in February it would raise some \$40 billion for Ukraine. About \$15.5 billion of that amounts to new loans from the IMF, with smaller sums from other sources. More than a third of the total is meant to be unlocked by the renegotiations of debt. Earlier this month, the IMF gave Ukraine a passing grade on its efforts to reform its economy and

political system but it has insisted on the need to agree on the debt relief with private sector bondholders.

"I am very pleased with today's announcement," said Christine Lagarde, the managing director of the IMF. "The agreement will help restore debt sustainability and — together with the authorities' policy reform efforts — will substantively meet the objectives set under the IMF-supported program."

Ukraine's economy contracted by a stunning 17.6 percent in the first quarter of the year compared with a year earlier, when the separatist conflict in the east erupted. □





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## Jewish settlers take over homes in Arab part of Jerusalem

MIRIAM BERGER  
 Associated Press

**JERUSALEM (AP)** — Ultra-nationalist Israelis took over a four-story building in the heart of an Arab neighborhood in east Jerusalem on Thursday, raising fears of fresh violence in the tense area.

A small group of activists from the Ateret Cohanim settler organization moved into the rundown white stone building. It was the latest in a wave of settler advances since nationalist Jews began buying up properties in densely populated Palestinian areas two decades ago.

The building is located in Silwan, a rundown neighborhood that is home to several hundred Jewish residents and some 50,000 Palestinians. Israeli soldiers were guarding the latest wave of settlers.

"I have 11 people inside the house, where should I go?" said Jawaf Abu Sneineh,

the only Palestinian resident who has still refused to vacate the building. He said he already paid the year's rent.

Abu Sneineh said his children were afraid of the Jewish settlers suddenly living above them.

Israel captured east Jerusalem, along with the West Bank and Gaza Strip, in the 1967 Mideast war. It subsequently annexed east Jerusalem in a move that is not internationally recognized.

The Palestinians claim east Jerusalem as the capital of a future state. East Jerusalem, particularly the Old City and its sensitive holy sites, is often a flashpoint of violence. Silwan is adjacent to the Old City, and Israel has developed an area there called the City of David, where Jewish tradition holds that King David established Jerusalem as Judaism's central holy city. □



A man is seen from a window as Israeli flags fly on top of a house in Silwan neighborhood of east Jerusalem Thursday, Aug. 27, 2015. Ultra-nationalist Israelis have taken over the building in the heart of an Arab neighborhood in east Jerusalem, raising fears of fresh violence in the tense area. (AP Photo/Mahmoud Illean)

## Thai court issues warrants for suspect in second bomb blast

**BANGKOK (AP)** — A Thai court on Thursday issued an arrest warrant for an unnamed suspect in a river-side blast that occurred a day after the bombing of a shrine in central Bangkok which killed 20 people.

Police spokesman Prawut Thawornsiri said the suspect appeared in a security video that shows a blurry image of an unidentified man in a blue shirt kicking a bag into the water near a busy pier on the night of Aug. 17, soon after the explosion at the Erawan Shrine.

An explosion took place near the spot about 18 hours later on Aug. 18, but caused no casualties.

The blast at the Erawan Shrine was unprecedented

in the Thai capital, where smaller bombs have been employed in domestic political violence over the past decade, but not in an effort to cause large-scale casualties.

Police have not determined a clear motive for the shrine bombing, which injured more than 120 people in addition to the 20 fatalities. Possible suspects include Muslim separatists from southern Thailand, parties seeking to avenge the forced repatriation of ethnic

Uighurs to China by the Thai government, opponents of Thailand's military government and feuding factions within the security services. □



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## Chilean truck drivers reach capital to protest arson attacks

**LUIS ANDRES HENAO**

**Associated Press**

**SANTIAGO, Chile (AP)** — Chilean authorities on Thursday allowed truck drivers blocking roads outside Santiago to reach the capital, ceding to their desire to protest against arson attacks by indigenous rights militants. The drivers had traveled hundreds of miles (kilometers) from the south-central Araucania region and hoped to reach

the presidential palace in Santiago. But for hours authorities denied them access on Thursday. They have been towing vehicles they say were torched by Mapuche radical groups who are demanding a return of their ancestral lands and autonomous rule.

"I recognize that the state has failed in the past when for a long time — and way before this government — many of these acts re-

mained unpunished," Interior Minister Jorge Burgos said, adding that he's willing to meet with the truckers and hear their demands. Violence in the Mapuche struggle escalated in 2013 with a string of arson attacks, including one in which Jorge Luchsinger's parents died defending their property from hooded trespassers. On Thursday, Luchsinger reached a plaza in front of the presi-

dential palace waving a burned flag found at the charred remains of his family's home. "Government, let the truckers show their burned trucks in an organized way, their agricultural machinery, because we can't bring our burned homes, we can't bring all the things that they've burned," Luchsinger said as Mapuche Indians and drivers' supporters clashed in front of the presidential

palace.

A Mapuche indigenous healer was sentenced last year to 18 years in prison for the arson killings, a crime that prompted a national debate about the Chilean state's inability to manage violent disputes over ancestral indigenous lands. The Mapuche, which means "people of the earth" in their Mapudungun tongue, are Chile's largest indigenous group. □

## Guatemalan prosecutors urge president to resign amid scandal

**ALBERTO ARCE**

**Associated Press**

**GUATEMALA CITY (AP)** — Pressure grew Thursday on Guatemalan President Otto Perez Molina to resign as business and government offices closed, protesters marched by the thousands and the attorney general's office urged him to step down "to prevent ungovernability that could destabilize the nation." The government comptrollers' office also issued a statement saying Perez Molina, whose administration has been shaken by corruption scandals, should resign "to avoid greater social unrest that could have unpredictable consequences."

Even Guatemala's national Council of Bishops issued a statement saying "we believe the president should reconsider his decision not to resign ... we fear that his current position could cause more polarization and conflict in the country."

Guatemala's congress named a commission of five legislators on Thursday



**A concentration of hundreds gather in front of the National Palace calling for the resignation of Guatemalan President Otto Perez Molina, in Guatemala City, Thursday, Aug. 27, 2015. Pressure grew Thursday on the embattled leader to resign as thousands marched from different parts of the capital, gathering in the National Plaza.**

to consider whether to remove the president's immunity from prosecution, a process somewhat like impeachment. But only one member of the commission was from the opposition, and a previous effort in congress failed.

Perez Molina, who could also face charges in a customs fraud scheme, has not spoken publicly since Sunday, when he denied any involvement and said emphatically that he would not resign. But his former defense and interior minis-

ters, who recently resigned from his cabinet, both left Guatemala between Wednesday and Thursday, the country's immigration service confirmed.

Thousands of protesters marched in the capital following days of intermittent

roadblocks by demonstrators who want the president to resign and the Sept. 6 presidential elections to be postponed.

Guatemala City's main square was a sea of blue-and-white national flags and white-clad protesters who chanted "Otto out!" The demonstrations drew a broad range of Guatemalans, from impoverished Indians to the country's upper-middle class.

"We usually don't go to protests, because of fear, but now this is sending a message of hope and an opportunity to educate our children, politically," said Mario Ovalle, 48, a lawyer who attended the march with his daughters, aged 9 and 12. "The exciting thing is that this has brought together all classes of society, with a common objective." The marches included one by college students, and Eduardo Valdes, the rector of the Jesuit Rafael Landivar University, said "the corruption ... has become unbearable for the people." □

(AP Photo/Moises Castillo)

## Mexico replaces security chief and foreign relations head

**MEXICO CITY (AP)** — Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto replaced the country's national security chief on Thursday, 1 ½ months after top drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman escaped from a maximum security prison.

Pena Nieto did not mention the escape Thursday when he announced that National Security Commis-

sion head Monte Alejandro Rubido was leaving the Cabinet.

His replacement is Renato Sales, the current head of the anti-kidnapping commission.

Guzman's July 11 escape proved a major embarrassment to the government. Several prison authorities were fired and three guards are on trial for allegedly

helping Guzman escape. Rubido also faced stiff questioning over the lopsided death toll in a federal police shootout with drug suspects in May in which 42 suspects and one policeman were killed.

Pena Nieto also named current foreign relations secretary Antonio Meade as the head of the social development department, in

charge of Mexico's stalled effort to reduce poverty.

The former social development head, Rosario Robles, will take over as head of urban and rural development from former attorney general Jesus Murillo Karam, who is leaving the cabinet.

Current tourism secretary Claudia Ruiz Massieu will take over the country's top

diplomatic post.

Changes were also made in the Cabinet-level posts in education, agriculture and the environment departments.

Presidential adviser Aurelio Nuno will take over the education department, which has been locked in disputes with radical teachers' unions over teacher testing and other reforms. □





## Loyal Guests Honored at the Divi Phoenix Beach Resort

**PALM BEACH** - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a group of loyal and friendly Visitors of Aruba at the Divi Phoenix Beach Resort, as Distinguished Visitors. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 consecutive years.

The honorees were Mr. Ron and Mrs. Debb Henkel, Mr. David and Mrs. Carolyn Ederheimer of Georgetown, Indiana, and Mrs. Corene Thompson of Fort Smith, Arkansas. All the honorees are loyal members of the Divi Phoenix and they love Aruba very much because of the friendly people, the climate, beaches, restaurants and casinos. They say Aruba feels like a second home, the people are like family to them and the Divi Phoenix is truly like paradise. The certificates were presented by Mr. Ernest Giel and Ms. Nadia Dabboussi representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with General Manager Mr. Gerrit Griffith and other members of the team from the Divi Phoenix Beach Resort. □





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**From the Hollywood Smokehouse:**

## Jordan Paskel chosen for Caribbean Barbecue Team 2015

**EAGLE BEACH**—Aruba's only authentic smokehouse, the Hollywood Smokehouse, co-sponsored an educational opportunity for their pit master in training, Jordan Paskel. Jordan was chosen to be a part of the U.S. Meat Export Federation's Caribbean Barbecue Team for 2015. Chefs and pit masters from around the Caribbean are chosen by the U.S. Meat Export Fed-

eration and the Texas Beef Council to be a part of the team that spends 6 days in Texas learning about beef and pork products.

Jordan is currently in College Station, Texas taking classes at Texas A & M's Meat Science & Technology Center, studying the basics of meat and pork production. The team will also travel to Austin and Amarillo, visiting some of the most



famous barbecue joints in the world, as well as touring harvesting plants and local ranches.

This opportunity marks Jordan's first trip abroad. "We are thrilled to be able to help make this happen for Jordan," say Hollywood Smokehouse's owners Michael and Tina Bislick. "Jordan came to us with zero kitchen experience, but his enthusiasm and willingness to learn, combined with his dedicated work ethic, has earned him a position as a supervisor in our kitchen," say Michael.

"Smoking meats is an art and a science—it's nothing like grilling. A pit master is responsible for several hundred pounds of meat smoking at the same time, and every smoked batch of meat is different, every piece of meat is distinctive, every type of wood unique...the courses Jordan is taking in Texas are



invaluable for his future in this business—pit masters are a rarity in the Caribbean region, and we are proud to offer this unique opportunity to Jordan," Tina says.

The Hollywood Smokehouse, located near Eagle Beach at Alhambra Casino & Shops, is locally owned and operated, and features smoked beef bris-

ket, pulled pork, fish, and chicken served with home-made southern side dishes, as well as healthy lettuce wraps and salads. The restaurant has been featured in international press and television programs, and most recently their craft "front porch" cocktails, made with fresh herbs and fruits, were featured in USA Today's travel special. □



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**ORANJESTAD** - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a group of loyal and friendly Visitors of Aruba at the Renaissance Ocean Suites, as Goodwill Ambassadors. The symbolic

honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 20-to-34 consecutive years. The honorees are sisters Virginia, Sara and Silvia Fer-

nandez Rivera of Venezuela. There three sisters are loyal members of the Renaissance Ocean Suites and they love Aruba very much because of the friendly people, the climate,

beaches, restaurants and casinos. They say Aruba feels like a second home, the people are like family to them and the Renaissance Ocean Suites is truly like paradise. The cer-

tificates were presented by Ms. Darline S. de Cuba representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Mr. Tino Daal from the Activities Desk of the Renaissance Ocean Suites. □



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**ORANJESTAD** - Want to win two free Electric Festival tickets? PepiaEst will be holding a treasure hunt on Saturday, August 29th. Two Electric Festival tickets will be hidden at a mystery location in Aruba for the first person who comes to pick them up at the right location. If you want to win these tickets, make sure to like and keep an eye on the PepiaEst Facebook page.

Several hints on the location of the tickets will be given on the Facebook page a few days before and on the day of the treasure hunt. PepiaEst is an exclusive importer and distributor of wholesale premium liquors, fine wines, Miller beer and Saratoga water on Aruba. For more information visit the website at <http://www.pepia-est.com/>.



## Upcoming Aruba Events Promise to Inspire and Entertain

**ORANJEAAD/PALM BEACH** - Music is to the soul what food is to the body. That is why the TEDxAruba

Foundation, Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival together with the Aruba Tourism Authority's Restaurant Week

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For more information, check out: [www.tedxaruba.com](http://www.tedxaruba.com), [www.caribbeanseajazz.com](http://www.caribbeanseajazz.com), and [www.aruba.com](http://www.aruba.com)

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able concepts with Aruba and the world! Our prestigious speakers include Varelle Croes, Arnaud Collety, Francois Geurds, Edward Cheung, Jan ten Hove and many more. Visit the TEDxAruba website for more information.

Also coming up on Aruba is the Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival Aruba 2015, 9th edition, on September 25 and 26 at the Renaissance Festival Plaza. Earth, Wind & Fire Experience, Roy Hargroves RH Factor,





Jordan Spieth hits a tee shot on the 12th hole during the first round of play at The Barclays golf tournament Thursday, Aug. 27, 2015, in Edison, N.J.

Associated Press

## Jordan Spieth stumbles out of the blocks at Barclays

DOUG FERGUSON  
AP Golf Writer

EDISON, N.J. (AP) — The start of the FedEx Cup play-offs brought out the worst score from Jordan Spieth in three months.

In his first tournament as No. 1 in the world, Spieth had a pair of three-putt bogeys, hit a tee shot in the water, shot 40 on his back nine and wound up with a 74 in the opening round of The Barclays. It was his highest score since a 75 in The Players Championship, the last time he missed a cut.

"Just lost a little bit of focus," Spieth said. "All in all, I'm just going to take today as a fluke round. I still believe I'm playing well. It just happened to be an off day on a day where it counted."

Bubba Watson had seven birdies and a pair of late mistakes that led to a 5-under 65 and a four-way share of the lead with Spencer Levin, Camilo Villegas and PGA Tour rookie Tony Finau.

Continued on Next Page

# BOLT ACTION



## Usain does it again for Beijing sweep

Jamaica's Usain Bolt celebrates after winning the gold in the men's 200m final at the World Athletics Championships at the Bird's Nest stadium in Beijing, Thursday, Aug. 27, 2015.

Associated Press  
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## Barclays

Continued from Page 17

Villegas only got into the top 125 to qualify for the playoffs last week at the Wyndham Championship with two shots to spare. That was pressure. Now he feels as though he has nothing to lose as he tries to get into the top 100 who advance to the second event next week at the TPC Boston.

"Last week was an important week," Villegas said. "It hasn't been the best of years, and just to be able to sneak in here and give myself a chance ... I get off to a good start, and three more rounds to go and keep it going."

Spieth has nothing to lose except the No. 1 ranking he has held for all of two weeks.

With two majors among his four wins, and nine top-

three finishes this year, he is No. 1 in the FedEx Cup and virtually assured of getting to the finale at East Lake with a clear shot at the \$10 million bonus. He can afford an off week or three. He just didn't like it.

Playing alongside Watson and Jason Day — the top three in the FedEx Cup — Spieth didn't miss a fairway on the back nine and was 2 under at the turn, three shots behind Watson. From the fairway on No. 1 to a back pin, he got too aggressive and went over the green, leading to bogey. Facing a 20-foot birdie putt on the next hole, he left in woefully short and backed off the par putt twice before missing it. And then he put his next shot in the water.

The round ended with an-



**Camilo Villegas, of Colombia, watches his putt on the ninth hole during the first round of play at The Barclays golf tournament Thursday, Aug. 27, 2015, in Edison, N.J.**

Associated Press

other three-putt bogey. Spieth could lose the No. 1 ranking to Rory McIlroy,

who is not playing this week as a precaution coming off an ankle injury. The next step is to make sure Spieth is around for the weekend at Plainfield Country Club. "Do what I've done best — bounce back," he said. "I come back strong tomorrow. I'm not a big fan of the course. It doesn't fit me very well particularly, but I've also won on courses that I didn't think fit me very well.

So I know I can still shoot a low round if I hit the shots that I need to hit, that I'm trying to hit.

"Typically when I hit the fairways, I'm not over par," he said. "And that's what was weird about the round."

Watson wasn't hitting all the fairways, but at times that was to his advantage. The greens are pitched in such a way that shots have to carry to the hole, allowing for spin to make sure the ball is below the hole. That's what caused Spieth problems at No. 1, and on the back nine when a sand wedge from the fairway spun back 35 feet.

From the rough, Watson was able to land short of

the flag and have it roll up toward the hole. That set up ample birdies.

The course doesn't suit Watson, either, mainly because of the number of blind shots. He likes to see where the ball is supposed to land on fairways and greens. But he managed just find and opened strong on a course where four years ago he missed the cut.

The best starts, however, belonged to the likes of Levin, Villegas and Jason Dufner, all of whom are outside the top 100 and trying to advance.

Day joined Phil Mickelson and Rickie Fowler in the group at 68.

Day pulled out of the program Wednesday after tweaking his back. Oddly enough, he had wanted an MRI on his back before the playoffs to make sure everything was in order. He felt the twinge removing a light box from under his motor home, and decided to have the MRI on Wednesday. It showed everything in good order, and while he rubbed his back after a few hooked tee shots, he felt good enough. □

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## Taking down Bolt is not easy, but a cameraman gives it a try

EDDIE PELLIS

AP National Writer

**BEIJING (AP)** — Only when the running stopped and the picture-taking began did Usain Bolt finally meet his match.

Bolt blew past Justin Gatlin and everyone else Thursday night in the 200 meters to win his 10th career gold medal at the world championships.

What finally upended the 6-foot-5 Jamaican was a multitasking cameraman riding a two-wheeled scooter while videotaping Bolt's victory lap. The scooter ran over the outcropping of a metal railing bolted to the edge of the track and bobbled off course — then slammed into the back of the fastest two legs on the planet.

Bolt's legs came out from under him and he went down hard and landed on his backside.

Then, smooth as silk, he somersaulted backward onto his feet, jogged a few steps, and reached down to make sure his left leg was OK.

He was no worse for wear — reporting just a few scrapes — but figured he'd try to make the evening at least a little more interesting.

"The rumor I'm trying to start right now is that Justin Gatlin paid him off," Bolt said, while sitting next to Gatlin in the medalists' news conference.

Gatlin's response: "I want my money back. He didn't complete the job."

Indeed, it may take more than just a motivated opponent to finish off Bolt,



Jamaica's Usain Bolt races to the gold medal in the men's 200m final at the World Athletics Championships at the Bird's Nest stadium in Beijing, Thursday, Aug. 27, 2015.

Associated Press

who now has five gold medals at the Bird's Nest, including the three he took at the 2008 Beijing Olympics when he set world records in the 100, 200 and 4x100 relay.

The split-second scare with the scooter provided what Bolt's season-best 19.55 seconds on the track did not. Namely, drama.

This was billed as the second round of the Bolt vs. Gatlin series that produced the champion's grittiest win four nights earlier. Bolt's .01-second victory in the 100 came despite a year's worth of injuries and off-form running that continued all the way through the semifinals.

Like most sequels, Part II

didn't live up to the original.

Running out of Lane 6, Bolt got off to a good start and worked smoothly into the curve, making up the lag to the runners to his outside and gathering steam as he headed into the turn.

Leading at the halfway point, he opened a three-body-length lead over Gatlin early in the stretch, and the last 50 meters were simply for showing off. Bolt coasted in and still won by .19 seconds.

The winner used his thumbs to point at himself as he crossed the finish line and flashed his index finger: He's No. 1 — just in case anyone had any doubts.

"What I really celebrated was, Justin Gatlin said ear-

lier in the week that he was going to bring out something special for the 200 meters," Bolt said. "I was like, 'You don't talk about my 200 meters like that.'" Gatlin came into world championships dominating the sprints while Bolt was stuck on the sideline.

The American was a favorite in the 100 meters, and Bolt took umbrage to the idea that Gatlin's stumble over the last 15 meters gave that race away.

"Disrespectful," Bolt called that notion. "I came out here and got it done."

Once the 200-meter heats began, Bolt started getting stronger and Gatlin, by his own admission, started feeling tired.

"I've beaten him once

before, and I hope to do it again," Gatlin said of a .01-second victory at a meet in Rome in 2013. "He's such a showman. You've got to give it to the guy for staying at the level he stays at. That's hard to do."

Gatlin's silver added to gold medals won by two Americans — Christian Taylor in the triple jump and Allyson Felix in the 400. Anita Wlodarczyk of Poland won the women's hammer throw with a championship-record toss of 80.85 meters.

When Felix crossed the line, she tied Bolt for the most gold medals at the world championships with nine. That lasted all of about 10 minutes — until Bolt took No. 10 in the night's final race.

Both sprinters are pointing toward Rio de Janeiro, where the Olympics are only 343 days away.

Something to think about: Bolt guessed if he'd pushed hard through the line Thursday night, he could have finished in the low 19.3s. He first got there at the 2008 Olympics, where he ran 19.30 to break Michael Johnson's 12-year-old world record. Bolt has since improved that to 19.19.

"But one of my goals is to run under 19 seconds," he said. "So if I want to run that, I have to really push myself next season."

For the short term, his goal is to grab another gold in the 4x100 relay on Saturday — then get out of Beijing unscathed.

Not always as easy as it may seem. □



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## Tennis' Djokovic has new title — UNICEF goodwill ambassador

**UNITED NATIONS (AP)** — Top-ranked tennis star Novak Djokovic has a new title — goodwill ambassador for the U.N. children's agency, UNICEF.

The world No. 1 men's player has worked on children's issues for UNICEF in his native Serbia since 2011. UNICEF has now appointed him a global goodwill ambassador.

UNICEF Deputy Executive Director Yoka Brandt said Wednesday Djokovic's new job recognized his work in Serbia to improve the lives, particularly of marginalized children, and to promote early childhood education.

"Novak Djokovic is a true champion for children around the world," she said. "He has shown that a powerful voice and powerful actions can make a difference for children, especially when they are very young."

Djokovic grew up in Serbia during the Balkan wars and became a top tennis player there. He has gone on to win nine tennis majors and is considered one of



In this March 7, 2014, file photo, Novak Djokovic, of Serbia, speaks during a news conference at the BNP Paribas Open tennis tournament in Indian Wells, Calif.

Associated Press

the sport's all-time greatest players. He is a favorite to win New York's U.S. Open, which begins next week.

"The early years of life are crucial," Djokovic said. "When well nurtured and cared for in their earliest years, children are more likely to survive, to grow in a healthy way ... and become productive and successful citizens of society."

Djokovic joins a VIP list of UNICEF goodwill ambassadors that has included entertainers Danny Kaye, Audrey Hepburn, Katy Perry, Sir Roger Moore and Shakira, soccer star David Beckham and women's tennis star Serena Williams. □

## Serena Williams could face Sharapova in U.S. Open semifinal



U.S. Open tennis defending champion Serena Williams speaks during a press conference at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in New York, Thursday, Aug. 27, 2015.

Associated Press

**RACHEL COHEN**

AP Sports Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Serena Williams could face Maria Sharapova for her second straight major semifinal as she seeks to complete the Grand Slam at the U.S. Open.

Thursday's draw filled the top-ranked Williams' quarter of the bracket with Americans, nine in all.

In the third round, Williams could face 29th-seeded Sloane Stephens, who beat her in the 2013 Australian Open and is com-

ing off her first WTA title in Washington this month. Another up-and-coming U.S. player, 19th-seeded Madison Keys, could await in the fourth round.

And in the quarterfinals, one potential opponent is her sister, 23rd-seeded Venus Williams. Another possible quarterfinal foe is 12th-seeded Swiss teen Belinda Bencic, who recently upset Williams in Toronto en route to a breakthrough title.

Williams is seeking to complete the first Grand Slam since Steffi Graf in 1988. She beat Sharapova in the semifinals of Wimbledon for her 17th straight victory over the Russian on the way to her second "Serena Slam" — four major championships in a row, but just not in the same year.

Second-seeded Simona Halep and fourth-seeded Caroline Wozniacki, who lost to Williams in last year's

U.S. Open final, are in the other half of the draw.

On the men's side, second-seeded Roger Federer and No. 3 Andy Murray could meet in one semifinal, with No. 1 Novak Djokovic and No. 4 Kei Nishikori, last year's runner-up, in the other.

Djokovic could face Rafael Nadal, who's seeded just eighth, in the quarterfinals. Nadal has a tough first-round match against fast-rising 18-year-old Borna Coric of Croatia, who just missed out on a seed with a ranking of 35th in the world and last year won their only head-to-head meeting.

Murray has an intriguing opening match with another young player who just missed out on a seed, 37th-ranked Nick Kyrgios.

The 20-year-old Australian comes into the U.S. Open with controversy swirling around him, facing a provisional suspension from the ATP for comments made to Stan Wawrinka in Montreal. During their match Aug. 12, a court-side microphone picked up Kyrgios saying that fellow Australian Thanasi Kokkinakis had slept with a player who reportedly is now Wawrinka's girlfriend.

Kyrgios has given Murray little trouble on the court, losing in straight sets in this year's Australian and French Opens.

Nishikori could face defending champ Marin Cilic, who's seeded ninth, in the quarters in a rematch of last year's final. □

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## AL Capsules

# Verlander takes no-hit bid into 9th, Tigers beat Angels 5-0



Detroit Tigers starting pitcher Justin Verlander throws during the fifth inning of a baseball game against the Los Angeles Angels, Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2015, in Detroit.

Associated Press

### The Associated Press

**DETROIT (AP)** — Justin Verlander lost a bid for his third no-hitter when Chris Iannetta lined a leadoff double in the ninth inning that landed on the left-field line, and the Detroit Tigers beat the Los Angeles Angels 5-0 Wednesday night.

Trying to become the sixth major leaguer to throw three no-hitters, Verlander settled instead for a one-hit shutout.

He was an inch away from so much more.

Iannetta's shot, just barely fair, kicked up chalk and rolled into the left-field corner. Verlander attempted to will it foul with body English, then arched his back in disappointment after the ball hit right on the line.

Verlander (2-6) retired the next three batters to finish his seventh career shutout and first since May 18, 2012, against Pittsburgh. The right-hander struck out nine and walked two in his first win since July 29.

He faced only 28 hitters — one more than the minimum — after inducing double plays following both walks.

**ASTROS 6, YANKEES 2**  
**NEW YORK (AP)** — Evan Gattis hit two home runs, Collin McHugh excelled once again and the Houston Astros exceeded last season's win total, beating the New York Yankees.

The AL West leaders improved to 71-57, a year after going 70-92. With 34 games left on the schedule, the Astros already have achieved their best season

since 2010.

The Yankees have lost five of seven, a slide that's cost them first place in the AL East.

McHugh (14-7) kept up a recent run of ace pitching, both for himself and the team with the top ERA in the league. Houston has won seven of nine, not permitting more than two runs in any game.

McHugh shut out the Yankees until Didi Gregorius hit a two-run homer in the seventh. He outpitched Michael Pineda (9-8) for the second time this year, and has allowed just seven runs in his last five starts.

**BLUE JAYS 12, RANGERS 4**  
**ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)** — Edwin Encarnacion hit a grand slam to extend his hitting streak to 21 games, helping David Price get a win on his 30th birthday in Toronto's victory against Texas.

Encarnacion sent his 26th homer into the Blue Jays' bullpen in left-center after Kevin Pillar opened a six-run sixth inning with a long ball that chased starter Colby Lewis (14-6).

Lewis issued four of a season-high 11 walks by Rangers pitchers.

Pitching on his birthday for the first time in the majors, Price (13-4) threw five scoreless innings after allowing Adrian Beltre's two-run homer in the first.

The AL East-leading Blue Jays won their fifth straight, while the Rangers dropped a half-game behind Minnesota in the race for the second AL wild card.

Jose Bautista walked four times and scored twice as Toronto went two games up in the division on the New York Yankees. The Astros moved 5 1/2 games ahead of Texas atop the AL West.

**TWINS 5, RAYS 3**

**ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP)** — Eduardo Escobar homered twice and Joe Mauer had a tiebreaking RBI single as Minnesota beat the Tampa Bay Rays for the Twins' sixth consecutive win.

Minnesota has its longest winning streak away from home since a six-game stretch Aug. 14-26, 2007. The Twins are 6-3 entering the final game of a 10-game trip Thursday night.

Escobar hit solo shots in the sixth and eighth innings, with the second one making 5-3. Mauer had a bases-loaded single and Trevor Plouffe hit a sacrifice fly as the Twins took a 4-2 lead in the seventh.

Brian Duensing (4-0) replaced Twins starter Tyler Duffey with the bases loaded and one out in the sixth, and retired Daniel Nava and pinch-hitter Brandon Guyer to preserve a 2-2 tie. Kevin Jepsen pitched the ninth for his eighth save.

Rays starter Chris Archer (11-10) took the loss.

**ORIOLES 8, ROYALS 5**  
**KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)** — Chris Davis, Manny Machado and Jonathan Schoop each hit a two-run homer off Johnny Cueto, and the Baltimore Orioles totaled five long balls in all to power their way to a victory over the Kansas City Royals that snapped a six-game skid.

Wei-Yin Chen (8-6) allowed three runs for the Orioles while scattering nine hits over six innings. The losing pitcher against the Royals in Game 3 of last year's AL Championship Series, he has now gone seven straight starts without a defeat.

Cueto (9-9) labored through five innings for Kansas City, allowing 10 hits and a walk. It was his second consecutive shoddy start after yielding a career-high 13 hits in a loss at Boston.

**RED SOX 3, WHITE SOX 0**

**CHICAGO (AP)** — Rick Porcello pitched seven sparkling innings in his return from a triceps injury, leading the Boston Red Sox to a victory over the Chicago White Sox.

Porcello and Chris Sale had nearly identical lines, but Travis Shaw hit a two-run homer off Nate Jones (1-1) with two outs in the eighth. Robbie Ross Jr. then got three outs for the Red

Sox before Junichi Tazawa finished the six-hitter for his third save in nine chances. Porcello (6-11) allowed five hits, struck out five and walked none in one of his best starts in a disappointing debut season with Boston. The right-hander was acquired in a December trade with Detroit, and then agreed to an \$82.5 million, four-year contract in April. □

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## NL Capsules

# Peavy shuts down Cubs as Giants earn 4-2 win

**The Associated Press**

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — Buster Posey followed Brandon Belt's leadoff triple in the sixth with a go-ahead double, Jake Peavy won for the second time in six starts, and San Francisco stopped Chicago's six-game winning streak.

Kelby Tomlinson added an RBI double of his own in the sixth against Kyle Hendricks (6-6) as the Giants ended a three-game slide with their second victory in seven games. Nori Aoki homered for San Francisco.

With their first win in six meetings this month against the Cubs, San Francisco avoided its first six-game skid in the series since 1993-94.

Peavy (4-6) allowed five hits and two runs in 6 1-3 innings to beat the Cubs for the second time in his last six outings against them. Santiago Casilla finished for his 31st save.

**CARDINALS 3, DIAMONDBACKS 1**  
**PHOENIX (AP)** — John Lackey pitched seven strong innings and St. Louis beat Arizona for the seventh straight time.

Patrick Corbin limited the Cardinals to Mark Reynolds' solo homer in six innings. St. Louis quickly took advantage after Corbin left, scoring twice off David Hernandez (1-4) in the sev-

enth. Kolten Wong had an RBI double and Matt Carpenter a run-scoring single. Lackey (11-8) bounced back from a shaky start, giving up a homer to Paul Goldschmidt in the first and little else. Trevor Rosenthal earned his 40th save.

St. Louis moved 36 games over .500 (81-45), its best mark since finishing the 2005 season plus-38. The Cardinals have won 12 of 13 against Arizona.

**PIRATES 7, MARLINS 2**  
**MIAMI (AP)** — Andrew McCutchen homered and drove in four runs to help the Pittsburgh Pirates to a victory over the Miami Marlins.

Jeff Locke (7-8) pitched seven innings, allowing two runs and five hits for the Pirates, who have won four of five.

Pittsburgh (76-49) remains four games behind first-place St. Louis (80-45) in the NL Central race.

Miami's Chris Narveson (1-1) struggled in his first start since April 15, 2012, while with Milwaukee. He allowed seven runs and eight hits in 3 2-3 innings.

Martin Prado homered for the Marlins.

McCutchen hit an RBI double in the first inning and helped spark a six-run second with a three-run home run, his 20th.

McCutchen is 6 for 13 with three doubles, a home run, and six RBIs in the first three games of the series

**METS 9, PHILLIES 4**

**PHILADELPHIA (AP)** — Bartolo Colon tossed five-hit ball and struck out eight in seven sharp innings, Michael

Eickhoff (1-1) and hit a two-run shot into the second deck in left field off Hector Neris in the eighth.

The Mets have dominated the Phillies, winning eight straight, 11 of 12 this season and 23 of the last 28 meetings. They will go for

three hits and Adrian Gonzalez chipped in a ninth-inning RBI double for the NL West-leading Dodgers, have won two straight games after a season-high, five-game losing streak.

The Reds, who have lost 11 of their last 12 games and slipped to 1-8 on their 10-game homestand, reached left-hander Brett Anderson for three unearned runs. Anderson (8-8) gave up five hits with one walk, four strikeouts and a wild pitch.

Luis Avilan struck out Jay Bruce with the tying runs on base in the eighth and Kenley Jansen pitched the ninth for his 25th save.

**PADRES 6, NATIONALS 5**  
**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Justin Upton homered twice and had three RBIs, Matt Kemp added a two-run double and the San Diego Padres held on to beat the Washington Nationals. Tyson Ross (9-9) allowed four runs in 6 1-3 innings for the Padres, who evened the three-game series and will try for their fifth straight series victory in Thursday's finale. Denard Span doubled twice for Washington in his second game back from the disabled list following back spasms, but Gio Gonzalez (9-7) failed to pitch more than five innings for a sixth time in seven starts. □



**San Francisco Giants' Nori Aoki, right, is tagged out by Chicago Cubs catcher Kyle Schwarber (12) while trying to score on his triple during the seventh inning of a baseball game in San Francisco, Thursday, Aug. 27, 2015.**

**Associated Press**

Cuddyer hit a long homer and the NL East-leading New York Mets beat the Philadelphia Phillies.

Colon (11-11) bounced back from a rough outing in Colorado, helping the Mets improve to 18-6 since July 31. They took a 6 1-2 game lead over second-place Washington, which lost 6-5 to San Diego.

Cuddyer had an RBI double in the first inning off Jerad

a four-game sweep Thursday night with plenty of visiting fans chanting "Let's Go Mets!" in Philadelphia's cozy ballpark.

**DODGERS 7, REDS 4**

**CINCINNATI (AP)** — Scott Van Slyke, A.J. Ellis and Yasiel Puig all homered during a five-run fourth inning, and the Los Angeles Dodgers held on for a victory over the Cincinnati Reds.

Kike Hernandez added

## Ex-NBA star Darryl Dawkins, aka 'Chocolate Thunder' has died

**By TIM REYNOLDS**

Darryl Dawkins, whose board-shattering dunks earned him the moniker "Chocolate Thunder" and helped pave the way for breakaway rims, has died. He was 58.

The Lehigh County, Pennsylvania coroner's office said Dawkins died Thursday morning at a hospital. Later Thursday, Dawkins' family said a heart attack was the cause of death. Officials said an autopsy was scheduled for Friday.

"Darryl touched the hearts and spirits of so many with his big smile and personality, ferocious dunks, but more than anything, his huge, loving heart," his



family said in a statement. "His family, wife Janice, children Dara, Tabitha, Nicholas and Alexis, along with countless family, friends, and fans, all mourn his loss. More than anything Darryl accomplished in his

basketball career as the inimitable 'Chocolate Thunder,' he was most proud of his role and responsibility as a husband and father." Dawkins spent parts of 14 seasons in the NBA with Philadelphia, New Jersey,

Utah and Detroit. He averaged 12 points and 6.1 rebounds in 726 career regular-season games.

"A great man, entertainer, athlete and ferocious dunker," former NBA guard Kevin Johnson wrote on Twitter. "He will be missed but not forgotten."

He was selected No. 5 in the 1975 NBA draft by the 76ers. His "Chocolate Thunder" nickname, he often said, was given to him by legendary singer Stevie Wonder — who is blind.

"People don't want to believe it. ... A guy who never saw me gave me the name Chocolate Thunder," Dawkins said in a 2012 interview.

Tributes poured in quickly from across the league, including from the 76ers.

"Simply put, Darryl Dawkins was beloved by his family, friends, former teammates and his fans all over the globe," 76ers CEO Scott O'Neil said. "His endearing charm, infectious smile and unparalleled sense of humor will be sorely missed. 'Chocolate Thunder' will always have a special place in our hearts. His family is in our thoughts and prayers." Dawkins was as revered off the court as he was on it. He remained enormously popular after his playing days were done, even during his stint as a member of the Harlem Globetrotters. □



# Review: New phones, tablets keep Samsung at Android helm

ANICK JESDANUN

AP Technology Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Samsung's new smartphones and tablets might not offer enough to entice current iPhone and iPad users to switch, but they keep Samsung at the head of the class among Android gadget makers.

The new Galaxy devices come weeks before comparable updates from Apple are expected. In a sense, if Samsung can't beat the competition in sales, it can at least beat it to store shelves.

Samsung has been facing competition not just from Apple but also from Android manufacturers such as Motorola and Xiaomi, which offer good-enough features while keeping prices low. Consumers will have to decide whether the premium features in the latest Samsung devices will be worth the premium price tags.

The Galaxy S6 Edge Plus and Note 5 phones arrived last week, while the Galaxy Tab S2 tablets come out next Thursday.

Here's a closer look at the devices:

## JUMBO SMARTPHONES

Samsung pioneered jumbo phones with the original Note in 2011, but lost its edge after Apple came out with its own, the iPhone 6 Plus. Samsung's new 5.7-inch phones seek to restore some of that edge.

Of the two, the Edge Plus is likely to appeal to more people. The screen's left and right edges are curved like a waterfall and blend into the phone's aluminum casing. You get a better grip and a more immersive viewing experience, even from an angle. As with the smaller S6 Edge phone from this spring, you can access frequent contacts and have the edge light up in a different color, depending on who's calling. With your phone face down, you know whether the caller's important enough to interrupt a meeting. The Edge Plus model adds quick access to frequently used apps.



In this Aug. 13, 2015 file photo, a product expert demonstrates the Samsung Galaxy S6 Edge Plus during a presentation at Lincoln Center in New York. Associated Press

The side screen also displays headlines and clock functions.

The Note 5 model comes with a regular, flat screen and is notable mostly for its stylus. It will appeal primarily to professionals who do a lot of note-taking and messaging. You can write instead of type an e-mail or reminder. Software converts the handwriting — even my chicken scratch — into computerized text. You can jot down a note even with the screen off, so you don't lose your train of thought in turning on the phone and opening an app first. You can also annotate documents and Web pages to share with others.

Both phones have great screens with vivid colors, though colors sometimes look unnatural. Faces appear too orange at times, for instance. The cameras are excellent, but have color challenges, too. Grass at a baseball game appeared yellowish rather than green. On the other hand, many people want photos to look stunning rather than accurate, judging by the popularity of Instagram filters that do just that.

The phones have great battery life — 13 to 15 hours of Hulu video, while the included wall charger gets you a quarter charge in 15 minutes and more than 85

percent in an hour.

The new phones borrow a number of features from the iPhone. They use metal and glass just like the latest iPhones, while earlier Samsung phones used plastic. And like the latest iPhones, Samsung phones will be capable of making card payments by tapping a store's payment terminal. Samsung Pay will debut next month.

So why don't I believe these new phones will entice iPhone users to switch? Being just as good isn't enough. They need to be much better, given that switching means buying new apps and learning new ways to do things. The pen and the edge screen help, but they won't appeal to everyone.

Samsung has a better chance at luring back some Android users — at least those willing to pay \$696 to \$740 for the Note 5 and about \$75 more for the Edge. Decent Android phones are available for a few hundred dollars less — without the pen or edge screen features.

## NEW TABLETS

Compared with the original Tab S, the Tab S2 update sheds bulk and weight, akin to what Apple has done with the full-size iPad Air and Air 2. But Samsung also scaled back on some features to make

mini version is 8 inches instead of 8.4 inches. Samsung also dropped the camera flash, something rare in tablets to begin with. Battery capacity is reduced, though you don't need as much power to light up a smaller screen. In any case, the 12 to 14 hours promised for video should be enough for most flights or evenings at home.

As with the Samsung phones and the original Tab S, the new tablets use AMOLED screen technology for vivid colors. This type of screen is rare for tablets because it's expensive to produce at such sizes. Colors are amazing when watching streaming video, as long as you overlook the occasional unnatural tone. One excellent change: The dimensions are now 4:3. □

that happen.

The \$500 full-size model is now 9.7 inches rather than 10.5 inches, while the \$400



In this March 25, 2015 file photo, Mark Zuckerberg talks about the Messenger app during the Facebook F8 Developer Conference in San Francisco. Associated Press

## For the first time, 1 billion people used Facebook in a day

**NEW YORK (AP)** — For the first time, a billion people used Facebook in a single day on Monday.

CEO Mark Zuckerberg marked the occasion with a post on his Facebook page, saying that one out of seven people on Earth logged in to the social network to connect with their friends and family.

The 1 billion figure is different from the daily user numbers Facebook

discloses each quarter when it reports its financial results. Those are the average number of daily users, counted over a 30-day period. Facebook had 968 million daily active users in June.

Overall, Facebook has nearly 1.5 billion users who log in at least once a month. It hit the 1 billion user milestone in October 2012. Most people on Facebook live outside the U.S. and Canada. □



# Wall Street sharply higher as Chinese market surges

**ALEX VEIGA**  
**AP Business Writer**

Investors were in a buying mood again on Thursday, driving U.S. stocks higher for the second straight day as they took advantage of this month's heavy sell-off. The rally came a day after the stock market delivered

logged its biggest gain in eight weeks. They also welcomed a report indicating that the U.S. economy expanded in the second quarter at a much faster pace than previously estimated. But mostly it was the opportunity to pick up beaten

The Dow Jones industrial average climbed 369.26 points, or 2.3 percent, to 16,654.77. The index has recouped almost 1,000 points in the last two days. That's more than half of its losses during a sharp six-day slump. The S&P 500 index gained

Financial markets have been volatile since China decided to weaken its currency earlier this month, a move investors interpreted as an attempt to bolster a sagging economy. But on Thursday the news out of China was more positive. The Shanghai Composite Index rose 5.3 percent, its first gain in six days. The index is rebounding from losses that triggered worldwide selling and wiped nearly 23 percent off its value over the past week. Traders are also jittery about the outlook for interest rates. The Federal Reserve has signaled it could raise its key interest rate for the first time in nearly a decade later this year. William Dudley, president of the New York Federal Reserve Bank, said Wednesday that the case for a U.S. interest rate hike in September is "less compelling" given China's troubles, weak oil prices and emerging markets weakness. Stocks picked up early on Thursday as investors reacted to the rebound in the Chinese stock market and European stock indexes. The Commerce Department provided a surprise boost, reporting that the economy, as measured by gross domestic product, expanded at an annual rate of 3.7 percent in the April-June quarter. That's a much bigger rebound in growth during the spring than previously estimated, and the strongest growth since last summer. □



**Specialist Charles Boeddinghaus, center, works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange Thursday, Aug. 27, 2015. Investors were in a buying mood again on Thursday, driving U.S. stocks higher for the second straight day as they took advantage of this month's heavy sell-off. (AP Photo/Richard Drew)**

its biggest gain in almost four years, ending a steep six-day slump that was triggered by concerns about the health of the Chinese economy. Energy stocks surged as the price of U.S. oil jumped more than 10 percent, closing back above \$40 a barrel. Investors were encouraged by a rebound in the Chinese stock market as the nation's main index

down shares that drove the rebound. By Tuesday's close, the Standard & Poor's 500 index had tumbled more than 10 percent from the all-time high that it set in May. "Asset prices sold off so much and so drastically, people went in and did start to bottom-fish," said David Lyon, global investment specialist at J.P. Morgan Private Bank in San Francisco.

47.15 points, or 2.4 percent, to 1,987.66. The Nasdaq composite rose 115.17 points, or 2.5 percent, to 4,812.71. Thursday's market action pushed the three indexes into positive territory for the week and nudged the Nasdaq out of the red for the year. The tech-heavy index is now up 1.6 percent for the year, while the Dow and the S&P 500 are still lower.

## STREET BRIEFS

### Port operator DP World half-yearly profits gains 22%

**DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)** — Dubai-based international port operator DP World says its net profits for the first half of the year reached \$405 million, up 22 percent compared to the same period last year. The company said in a statement Thursday that half-yearly revenue was up 14.5 percent at \$1.9 billion, compared to \$1.66 billion a year ago. DP World attributed some of that growth to its \$2.6 billion acquisition of Dubai government-linked free-trade zone operator Economic Zones World. The company expects "moderate" growth rates for the second half of the year. DP World, which trades on the Nasdaq Dubai, ranks among the world's largest port operators, with business at more than 65 marine terminals globally. The government-backed firm recorded \$675 million in profit attributable to its owners for last year.

### Christmas gifts: Wal-Mart holiday Layaway is early

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Wal-Mart is giving customers a head start on holiday shopping, launching its annual layaway program two weeks earlier than last year. It's the latest sign of retailers getting more aggressive about grabbing holiday shoppers early. Stores have offered holiday discounts earlier as they battle competition from online retailers. Shoppers at Wal-Mart can put their items on hold starting Friday. Each item must cost \$10 or more, down from the \$15 limit last year. All items held must be worth a total of \$50. Customers will have more time to pay for their items this year, 90 days instead of the 60 days they were given last year. Wal-Mart Stores Inc., based in Bentonville, Arkansas, says it will start to offer exclusive "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" toys starting Sept. 4. □

## Oil jumps 10% for biggest one-day gain since 2009

**The Associated Press**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Oil soared more than 10 percent Thursday, its biggest one-day gain since March 2009, lifted by resurgent global stock markets and a report showing the U.S. economy grew faster than previously reported in the second quarter. U.S. oil rose \$3.96, or 10.3 percent, to \$42.56 in New York. That is the biggest gain since March 12, 2009,

when oil gained 11 percent. Brent crude rose 10.3 percent to \$47.56 a barrel in London. Oil had fallen to a 6 1/2 year low because of a global supply glut and worries about the health of China's economy. Analysts viewed Thursday's gain as a reaction to the rebound in China's main stock index, which rose the most in eight weeks, and don't see anything pointing to a

long-term rally in oil prices. "One up day in a sea of consistent summer selling does not make for an imminent recovery in crude oil, or in gasoline," said Tom Kloza, global head of energy analysis at Oil Price Information Service. U.S. consumers can still expect to see sharply lower gasoline prices in the fall. Kloza said OPIS sees pump prices falling 12 cents to 17 cents a month from Sep-

tember through December. The average price for a gallon of regular gasoline Thursday was \$2.53, down 90 cents from a year ago, according to OPIS and AAA. Oil was also boosted by positive U.S. economic news. A government report showed that the U.S. economy grew 3.7 percent in the second quarter, significantly better than the initial estimate of 2.3 percent growth. □



## Freeport-McMoRan cuts more spending; Icahn discloses stake

**PHOENIX (AP)** — Activist investor Carl Icahn said late Thursday that he has taken an 8.5-percent stake in Freeport-McMoRan, just hours after the mining company announced cost cuts and lower spending in response to declining copper prices and soft economic conditions worldwide. Shares of the Phoenix company surged 29 percent to \$10.19 after it announced the spending reductions,

although the stock is still down 72 percent in the past year. On Wednesday it reached its lowest price in 12 years. After Icahn disclosed his stake, the stock gained another 19 percent in extended trading, to \$12.15. Icahn said he wanted to discuss cuts to Freeport's operations and capital spending, and might seek representation on the board. According to FactSet, Icahn is now

Freeport-McMoRan's largest shareholder. In a form filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, Icahn said he had not started talks with Freeport-McMoRan as of Wednesday. The filing said Icahn wants to talk to management about its capital spending, executive compensation practices, capital structure, and discuss curtailing its high-cost production operations. He disclosed owner-

ship of 88 million shares. Freeport said it maintains an open dialogue with its shareholders and welcomes their input. It pointed to spending cuts it has already announced. Third-quarter copper prices are approaching a six-year low, the company said Thursday, and oil prices are at their lowest levels in six years. Before the market opened, Freeport-McMoRan said it will reduce copper sales by

about 150 million pounds per year in 2016 and 2017 and cut 2016 unit site production by 20 percent. It also plans to slash 2016 minerals exploration costs from \$100 million to \$50 million. It also plans to cut about 10 percent of employees and contractors at U.S. mining operations. Earlier this month, the company said it would cut back on spending by its oil and gas business. □

## Sprint offers DirecTV customers free year of phone service

**ANICK JESDANUN**  
**AP Technology Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Sprint is offering DirecTV customers one free year of cellphone service in a bold move aimed at the satellite TV company's new owner, AT&T. AT&T, which bought DirecTV for \$48.5 billion in July, has been promoting a bundle that knocks \$10 a month off a combined bill for video and wireless phone service. For a single line, the value of Sprint's promotion is about \$50 a month. It's Sprint's way of offering DirecTV customers a bundle without actually owning a video company. Sprint, which is in the midst of a turnaround effort, has been making a range of promotional offers to lure customers. But so far, the Overland Park, Kansas, company hasn't been as successful as T-Mobile, which went through its own turnaround.

T-Mobile is now the No. 3 wireless carrier in the U.S. after surpassing Sprint this year. In the April-June quarter, Sprint lost 12,000 customers in "postpaid" phone plans, the ones offered to customers with good credit, while T-Mobile gained 760,000. But Sprint says it's been reducing the size of its quarterly losses in customers and even saw gains in the months of May, June and July. Craig Moffett, a senior analyst at MoffettNathanson, said the latest promotion is bold, but reckless. "Sprint is already losing money and is burning through its remaining cash at an incredible rate," he said. "Offering free service for a year will only make a bad situation worse." The free service will cost Sprint \$600 per line, plus any charges to pay off rivals' contract-termination fees or to finish off payments



**A Sprint logo is displayed on a smart phone in Montpelier, Vt. Sprint is offering DirecTV customers one free year of cellphone service in a bold move aimed at the satellite TV company's new owner, AT&T. AT&T, which bought DirecTV for \$48.5 billion in July, 2015, has been promoting a bundle that knocks \$10 a month off a combined bill for video and wireless phone service.**

(AP Photo/Toby Talbot)

under monthly installment plans. But Roger Entner, an analyst at Recon Analytics, said the costs are justified as investments for new customers. "When you're No. 4, you can't afford to play it safe," he said. AT&T had no immediate

comment. Dallas-based AT&T Inc. has been using the DirecTV service as a way to package wireless access and entertainment. Sprint Corp., which doesn't have the entertainment component, isn't willing to cede those

customers to AT&T. The latest promotion shows how aggressive phone companies have become as they try to lure customers from each other, given that most Americans now have cellphones. Sprint's offer is good for up to five lines on a single account, with each getting 2 gigabytes of data each month and unlimited calls and texts. It begins Friday and runs through Sept. 30. DirecTV customers must show some proof, like a DirecTV bill from the past 60 days, when signing up. But people can still sign up for DirecTV now to get the Sprint offer. What's the catch? — Existing Sprint customers must add a new line of service to qualify. And both new and existing customers must buy or lease a new phone through Sprint; they cannot use one they already own. □

## Dole Food CEO, former top exec ordered to pay \$148M

**RANDALL CHASE**  
**AP Business Writer**

**DOVER, Del. (AP)** — A Delaware judge on Thursday ordered 92-year-old Dole Food CEO David Murdock and a former top lieutenant to pay \$148 million in damages for misleading directors and shareholders in a deal that took the company private in 2013. The judge on Thursday said the billionaire businessman, along with former Dole president and chief operating officer C. Michael

Carter, breached their fiduciary duties of loyalty in structuring a \$1.2 billion cash buyout that left the fruit-and-vegetable giant in Murdock's hands. Vice Chancellor Travis Laster noted that a board committee was able to overcome most of the two men's "machinations," negotiating an increase in Murdock's initial \$12 per share offer to a deal price of \$13.50, which received a narrow 50.9 percent approval from stockholders.

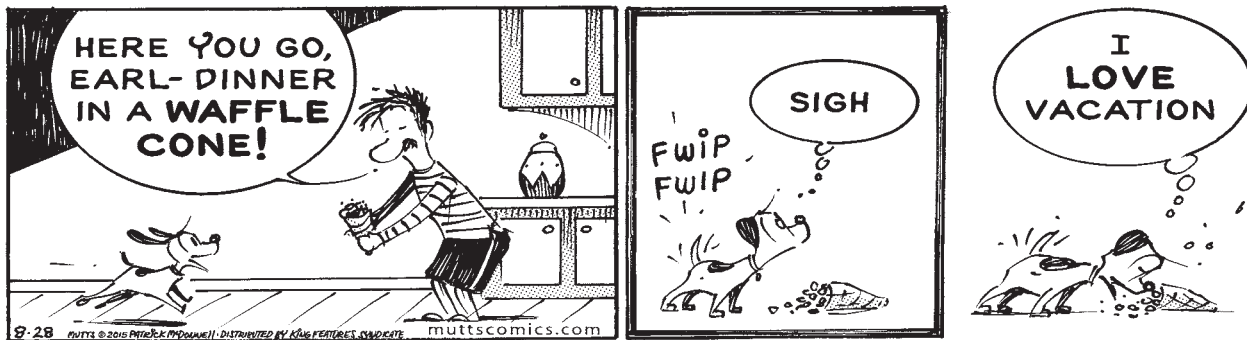
"But what the committee could not overcome, what the stockholder vote could not cleanse, and what even an arguably fair price does not immunize, is fraud," wrote Laster, whose damage award represents an incremental value of \$2.74 per share. Morgan Evans, a Dole Food spokeswoman, said the company had no comment on the ruling. Attorneys for Murdock and Carter did not immediately

respond to email messages seeking comment. Stuart Grant, an attorney representing shareholders in the litigation, noted that the judge concluded that shareholders were entitled not only to a fair price, but to "a fairer price designed to eliminate the ability of the defendants to profit from their breaches of the duty of loyalty." "We are extremely pleased not only with the large financial recovery, but the forceful way in which the

court excoriated the defendants for the brazen way they tried to hijack Dole for their own advantage in taking the company private," Grant said in a prepared statement. Among other things, Laster said that before Murdock made his initial buyout proposal, Carter made false disclosures about how much money Dole could save by selling roughly half its business in 2012, and canceled a stock repurchase program. □



Mutts



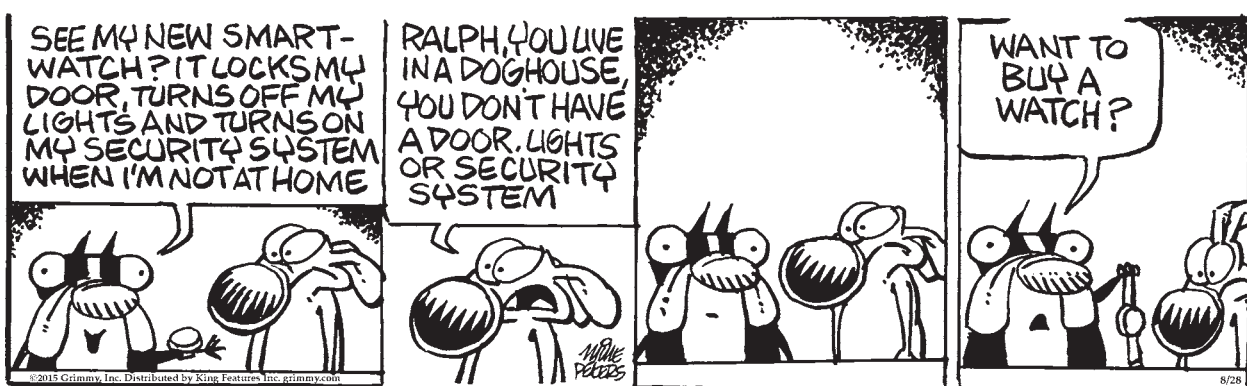
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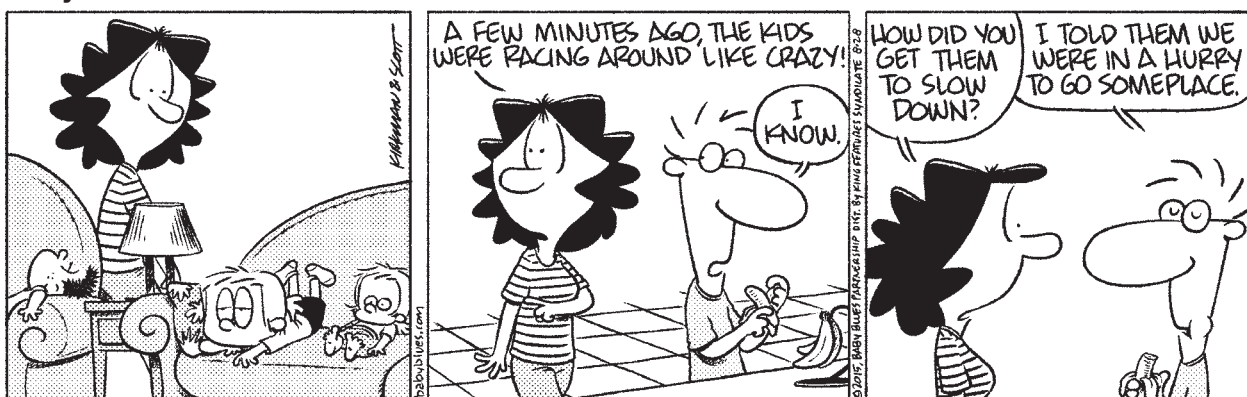
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Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

3			2	7				4
					9			
		9				5		
	7		5		2			3
9								1
1			4		6		7	
		2				4		
			9					
6				3	1			8

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

6	2	4	5	8	3	9	7	1
5	1	7	9	2	4	6	8	3
9	3	8	7	1	6	5	2	4
7	6	9	3	4	2	1	5	8
3	5	1	6	7	8	4	9	2
4	8	2	1	5	9	3	6	7
1	9	6	2	3	7	8	4	5
2	4	5	8	9	1	7	3	6
8	7	3	4	6	5	2	1	9

ACROSS

- City near Lake Tahoe
- Glowing coal fragment
- "Wonderful Life"
- Like sweet cinnamon rolls
- Singer Judd
- Close by
- Actor Everett
- Victorious
- Hip-; Tupac Shakur's style
- Work hard
- Erie & Geneva
- 21st-century U.S. president
- Chum
- Self-confidence
- Joyfulness
- Like a fresh potato chip
- Chosen few
- Ho-; boring
- Little children
- Weasel
- Brief note
- Mineral spring
- Cut off
- Fishhook dangles
- "Make it \_\_\_"; impatient person's order
- Walks leisurely
- Tit for
- Actress Burke
- Passion
- 50-cent piece
- To and; back and forth
- Almost, but not quite
- Head honcho
- Fill a suitcase
- Play divisions
- Up; gives support to
- Equipment
- From that time forward
- Delicious
- Jealousy
- Actor Marvin
- Velvety green ground cover
- Aug.'s follower

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17				18					19			
20				21					22			
23				24					25			
26				27					28			
29				30					31			
32				33					34			
35				36					37			
38				39					40			
41				42					43			
44				45					46			
47				48					49			
50				51					52			
53				54					55			
56				57					58			
59				60					61			
62				63					64			

Created by Jacqueline E. Matthews

8/28/15

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

DOT	OBAMA	PACE
OWES	RIVAL	ECHO
GNAW	GRILL	THEN
SKEDADDLE	REFS	
DINS	RHO	
STAIRS	LEGALESE	
ARISE	GIVES	REV
BUSH	TAKEN	NOVA
ELL	URGES	POSED
RYEBREAD	SEVERE	
INA	MATE	
PUMA	SALESS	SLIP
ITIS	USERS	THAN
GALE	RANGE	YOGA
SHED	ENDED	PEG

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8/28/15

DOWN

- Wealthy
- Reverberate
- Ice cream buyer's choice
- Bizarre
- Bury
- Ms. Shriver
- Sore as a
- Flightless bird
- Curved edge
- Breathe in
- Boatbuilder's wood, often
- Not crazy
- and crafts
- Pigtail
- Pat down soil
- Head honcho
- Fill a suitcase
- Play divisions
- Up; gives support to
- Equipment
- From that time forward
- Delicious
- Jealousy
- Actor Marvin
- Velvety green ground cover
- Aug.'s follower

- Nearly all
- Tire in the trunk
- down; eat greedily
- Quarreling
- Wild brawls
- "Yankee Doodle"
- Fundamentals
- Acting part
- Word of disgust
- Give a job to
- Rump
- for; chooses
- Fraternity letter
- the ball; bowl clumsily
- That woman



## FDA lays out proposal for lower-cost biotech drugs

**MATTHEW PERRONE**  
AP Health Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The Food and Drug Administration released its proposal Thursday for naming lower-cost biotech drugs, a critical step in creating a market for the new class of medicines. These quasi-generic biotech drugs have the potential to save the U.S. health care system billions of dollars in costs. But representatives for the generic drug industry warned that the FDA's proposal could curb those savings by making the drugs more difficult to prescribe. Biotech drugs are powerful, injected medicines produced in living cells which are typically much more expensive than traditional chemical-based drugs. Many newer biotech drugs cost more than \$100,000 per year and together they account for nearly 30 percent of all U.S. drug spending. For decades, they have not faced generic competition because the FDA lacked a system to approve cheaper versions until 2012. Earlier this year the agency approved the first "biosimilar." That's the industry term for generic biotech drugs, used to indicate that they are not exact copies of the original biologic medicines. But many questions remain about how the new drugs will be sold and marketed, including whether they can use the same ingredient names as the original products.



The headquarters of pharmagroup Novartis is pictured in Basel, Switzerland. The Food and Drug Administration released its proposal Thursday for naming lower-cost biotech drugs, a critical step in creating a market for the new class of medicines. (AP Photo/Steffen Schmidt)

Under an FDA proposal, all biotech drugs would be labeled with a four-letter code to help doctors distinguish them from the original versions. For example, the original drug might be labeled "drug-czm" and a biosimilar version could be labeled "drug-hixf." The codes would not have any meaning and would mainly help doctors and pharmacists avoid accidentally switching pa-

tients between drugs. Branded biotech drug-makers have long stressed the safety risks of switching patients to alternate versions of biotech drugs, noting they are not perfect copies of the originals. The Generic Pharmaceutical Industry Association warned in a statement that the FDA's plan could "erect barriers to patient access to new, more affordable medicines." □

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SAVANETA	584-7000
SAN NICOLAS	584-5000
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FIRE DEPT.	115
FIRE DEPT.	582-1108
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TAXI-TAS	587-5900
PROF. TAXI	588-0035
TAXI D.T.S.	587-2300
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24/7

## Scientists squabble while Africa's only penguins perish

**COURTNEY QUIRIN**  
**Associated Press**

**CAPE TOWN, South Africa (AP)** — They're cute, knee-high, they bray like donkeys and are a tourist attraction near Cape Town. But African Penguins — the continent's only species of the flightless bird — are at risk of extinction.

As shoals of anchovies and sardines have migrated south into cooler waters, the population of African Penguins that feeds on the fish has plummeted by 90 percent since 2004 along South Africa's west coast, once the stronghold of Africa's only penguin species. This decline, recorded by South Africa's Department of Environmental Affairs, led to four key fishing grounds being declared off limits seven years ago in an experiment to see if the measure could help save the penguins. But scientists are still debating whether fishing has helped push the species to the brink of extinction.

The debate has gotten so acrimonious that the Island Closures Task Team, which oversaw the experiment and determined management actions, disbanded last year. Meanwhile, the fishing bans remain in place.

If effective management of the situation is not carried out, the black-and-

white seabirds could soon disappear, experts say. In the 1930s, South Africa's largest penguin colony had 1 million African Penguins, and there were many other colonies. Now, only 100,000 of the birds remain in all of South Africa and neighboring Namibia, the only two countries where

Zealand, the Northern Rockhopper Penguin from islands in the South Atlantic and Indian Ocean and the Galapagos Penguin in Ecuador. Reasons for declines include sea temperature change causing shifts in forage fish, predators, disease, fishing and toxic algae.

Southern African Foundation for the Conservation of Coastal Birds, or SANCCOB. On a recent morning, workers there were feeding and medicating 106 orphans and putting them in pools for a morning swim. Some waddled up to this reporter and gently pecked at her legs. In an attempt to slow

the biggest component of South Africa's fishing industry. In terms of revenue, it's the second-biggest. They are also the penguin's primary food source. Recently, a team led by Janet Coetzee, a fisheries scientist with the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, was on a small, motorized boat among dolphins, seals and giant shipping vessels and towing a hefty oblong device through a banned fishing area. The device determines how many fish are around. Despite the fish migration, such surveys found there were plenty of anchovies for penguins during certain months.

Penguin biologists believe that closing areas to fishing leaves more fish for penguins and boosts chick survival by 18 percent. But mathematical modelers of fish populations have reservations about that statistic and insist that the impact of fishing is minimal. Coetzee says fishing quotas already allow only approximately 10 percent of the sardine and anchovy population to be taken, leaving plenty of fish for penguins. These fisheries experts blame predators like fur seals and sharks, nest flooding, heat stress or disturbances from large fishing vessels for exacerbating the penguin decline — not fishing itself.

Penguin biologists say it's too early to tell.

"These sorts of issues must be teased out and the assumptions clearly understood," said Dr. Rob Crawford, who heads the penguin biologist research. Crawford's team wants to keep the fishing grounds closed for several more years. Fisheries scientists are calling for its end. □



**A Penguin runs out of the ocean after swimming at Boulders beach a popular tourist destination in Simon's Town, South Africa, Thursday, Aug. 27, 2015.**  
**Associated Press**

the species exists. In 2010, the International Union for Conservation of Nature declared the African Penguin endangered.

Of the 17 species of penguins in the world, the IUCN has named four others as endangered: the Yellow-Eyed Penguin and Erect-crested Penguin from New

Both fisheries scientists and bird specialists agree that the decline of the African Penguin began around 2004 with a southern shift in anchovies and sardines away from the hub of colonies along South Africa's Atlantic coast. Scientists are unsure why the fish have moved, considering as possible causes climate change, overfishing or natural fluctuations.

Now, penguins must swim farther to catch fish, leaving adults weakened. Many have died or abandoned their chicks, with hundreds winding up in the crowded, outdoor pens of a seabird rehabilitation center, nestled on the edge of Cape Town's Table Bay. It is run by the

the decline, SANCCOB releases rehabilitated penguins into the wild every week.

Relocating penguins to within reach of the masses of anchovies and sardines is only a possibility for chicks — and a difficult one with no guarantee of success. So, in 2008, the South African government began the experimental ban on fishing in a 20-kilometer (12.4-mile) radius alternating around four key penguin colonies: Robben and Dassen Islands in the Atlantic Ocean and St. Croix and Bird Islands in the Indian Ocean. Some of these waters were hotspots for sardine and anchovy fishing. Anchovies and sardines comprise, in volume,



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